

**SECRET**

Executive Registry
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22 March 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Subject: Medical Intelligence

1. The Standing Committee at the meeting this morning would not go along with, or even discuss in detail the Proposed NSCID dated 21 March on Medical Intelligence based on Mr. Forrestal's letter centralizing it in CIA. They all maintain that contrary to the statement in the third paragraph of Mr. Forrestal's letter this proposal was not discussed with the Heads of the Service Intelligence Agencies who indicated their general concurrence therein. That statement, of course, has caused all the mix-up about having an IAC meeting to discuss this matter (as requested three times in Mr. Forrestal's letter of 5 March).

2. Air is the only one that goes along with the Proposed NSCID; State wants incorporated in it a definition of medical intelligence and qualifications about collection of this material (by its Scientific Attaches? and or by the Foreign Service Officers); Navy was not certain that CIA is the proper place for such a centralized service of a predominantly military nature; Army wants a study on the subject re centralization, responsibilities, and definitions.

3. Dr. Machle was at the meeting as well as Captain Sapero, USN, and Dr. Turner of the Army's Surgeon General's Office. Dr. Machle will try to draft a study giving: definition of what is to be covered, Is CIA the place for it? Who has the personnel to do the job? What increased collection responsibilities are there entailed? This will undoubtedly be a paper split at least one way if not four ways.

4. Maybe after they receive this information in written form the Standing Committee will consider themselves able to grapple with the Proposed NSCID.

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2. Also Mr. Booth is proposing that the Standing Committee have regular meetings on the weeks when the IAC does not meet, although the others maintain that 99% of the time such regular meetings would serve no useful purpose.

3. He, apparently, wants to build up the Standing Committee into a good thick layer through which all our matters have to pass before reaching the IAC Members themselves, i. e., a skyscraper instead of a bungalow. I do not know if this is to be featured in State's reply on the Dulles Report, but I do know that the Standing Committee doesn't work any better than the IAC under the present set up. The viewpoint still seems to be to block things rather than to accomplish things.

PRESCOTT CHILDS  
Chief, ICAPS

*Part 2 of March 22 Memo to DCI  
re Medical Intelligence*

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